
Page 6, line 20 - Page 7, line 4

B2
Figure 3 is a diagram exemplifying the relationship between the components of a tape drive mechanism of the present invention. The hub filler 402 is shown riding along the guide rail 408, with tape 406 attached. The end of the tape 406 is fixedly attached to a leader pin 404, which is releasably attached to the hub filler 402. The other end of the tape 406 is wound around the single reel 417 of cartridge 400. The single reel 417 is mechanically coupled to a cartridge reel motor 412. The cartridge reel motor 412 rotates during a tape unloading operation to retract the tape 406 into the tape cartridge 400.

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B3
During the tape read/write operation, the hub filler 402, leader pin 404, and tape 406 are attached to the take-up reel 410. The take-up reel 410 and the single reel 417 are rotated to run the tape across a read/write head (not shown) for exchange of data between the tape drive mechanism and the tape 406.

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B4
During an unloading operation, in accordance with the present invention, the cartridge reel motor 412 rotates the single reel 417 such that the tape 406 is retracted into the cartridge 400 by the tape 406 being wound around the single reel 417. Tension is maintained in the tape 406 at the hub filler 402, such that it is ensured that the leader pin 404 will not be inadvertently detached from the hub filler 402 during transport along the guide rail 408. This tension is maintained by the drag force the hub filler 402 exerts on the tape 406 as the tape 406 retracts into the cartridge 400. The drag force may be considered one type of means for preventing detachment of an end of tape 406 from the